

# EGGS OF THE GREAT AUK



BY

P. M. L. & J. W. TOMKINSON

*Pp 95-128 ; Plates 1-75*

BULLETIN OF  
THE BRITISH MUSEUM (NATURAL HISTORY)  
HISTORICAL SERIES

Vol. 3 No. 4

LONDON: 1966

THE BULLETIN OF THE BRITISH MUSEUM (NATURAL HISTORY), *instituted in 1949, is issued in five series corresponding to the Departments of the Museum, and an Historical series.*

*Parts will appear at irregular intervals as they become ready. Volumes will contain about three or four hundred pages, and will not necessarily be completed within one calendar year.*

*In 1965 a separate supplementary series of longer papers was instituted, numbered serially for each Department.*

*This paper is Vol. 3, No. 4 of the Historical series. The abbreviated titles of periodicals cited follow those of the World List of Scientific Periodicals.*

© Trustees of British Museum (Natural History) 1966

TRUSTEES OF  
THE BRITISH MUSEUM (NATURAL HISTORY)

*Issued June, 1966*

*Price £2 15s.*



# EGGS OF THE GREAT AUK

By P. M. L. & J. W. TOMKINSON

In memory of Gerald Tomkinson, 1876-1959

## PREFACE

WHEN Mr. Gerald Tomkinson died, in 1959, he left his collection of birds' eggs to his son Mr. J. W. Tomkinson. The collection included an egg of the Great Auk and was supplemented by a printed list, prepared by Edward Bidwell, of all the Great Auk eggs known to exist in 1892, with annotated additions up to 1900, together with a set of photographs of all but two of the eggs. Mrs. P. M. L. Tomkinson and her husband decided to bring Bidwell's list of eggs and owners up to date and were encouraged to do so by Mr. J. D. Macdonald, officer in charge of the Bird Section of this Department. Early in the compilation of the available information it became clear that it would be desirable to record the history of each egg and so from a simple list the project developed into the present publication which includes a photograph of each egg and a summary of its provenance and changes of ownership to the present time.

The 75 eggs, together with some skins and skeletons are all that now remain of the Great Auk. The extinction of this species is usually attributed to human agency, because over a long period, these flightless birds were driven into stone pens, slaughtered and salted down in the holds of ships for food and oil. There is evidence, however, that the distribution of the Great Auk was shrinking long before man came on the scene and that its course was towards extinction because of adverse biological factors. It is because of the common, inherent propensity of man to collect that these few relics of an extinct species survive today.

J. P. HARDING

*Keeper of Zoology*

## INTRODUCTION

There is no authentic record of the existence of the Great Auk after 1844. Its disappearance put a scarcity value on its relics and the prices at which the few remaining eggs changed hands increased until at the turn of the century they usually reached over three hundred pounds. Although that means about as many thousands by present monetary values the price does not seem to have increased much beyond that actual figure judging by the few recent sales where the purchase price has been made known. Great Auk eggs became collectors' pieces and no cabinet of any pretensions was complete without one, if not an original then a copy. One of the most productive and expert copyists was John Hancock of Newcastle whose models of several of the eggs fetched anything up to five pounds at auction sales.

The following records show that the eggs did not rise in value until long after the bird became extinct. For a number of years after 1844 eggs are known to have been given away or to have changed hands for a few shillings or francs: for example, Hewitson (1856) refers to the £5 paid by Wilmot (see No. 9) as "an extravagant price". There was, therefore, no great enticement of financial gain in collecting eggs during the last few decades of the birds existence, by which time its fate must have been sealed; its population must have dwindled to a point beyond all reasonable hope of recovery.

The basis of these notes was provided, of course, by Bidwell's photographs, with the corresponding list, which would permit complete identification of each egg. As Bidwell's list was the starting point, we decided to keep his numbering of the eggs, tracing each one to its present owner, keeping any untraced egg in its proper order as long as no certain proof of its being destroyed was obtained, and adding any new discovery to the end. This might, at first glance, give a false idea of the number of eggs, but we thought it best not to start a new numbering as many owners are aware of Bidwell's list and the number of their egg or eggs in it.

Bidwell's numbers did not correspond with those given by Symington Grieve to the eggs known to him when he published his book "The Great Auk or Garefowl" in 1885. Thomas Parkin also numbered the eggs differently in his "The Great Auk: A Record of Sales of the Birds and Eggs of the Great Auk in Great Britain", 1912. The relationship of these systems of numbering is indicated in Appendix D.

Bidwell recorded 71 eggs and obtained photographs of 69 of them. We have been fortunate in being able to get photographs of the other two, by kind permission of The Academy of Natural Sciences, Philadelphia and the Smithsonian Institution, Washington, D.C. The owners of four additional eggs have also supplied us with photographs.

Of Bidwell's 71 eggs the present location of three has not been traced: they are Nos. 38, 59, 68. As there is no proof that they have ceased to exist we have included what information we have about them in their proper sequence. We hope that by bringing attention to them in this way information about their subsequent history will come to light. It is possible that some might be owned by Captain Vivian Hewitt of Bryn Aber, Anglesey, North Wales, who has not been able to give us full information on the eggs in his collection.\*

\*Captain Vivian Hewitt died on 26th July, 1965. It is not known what is to become of this collection of Great Auk eggs.

Of the four eggs we have added to our list No. 72 was mentioned by Thomas Parkin in 1912, and No. 73 was added by Bidwell in MS in 1914 to his own copy of his printed list. Nos. 74 and 75 were unknown to previous recorders and are here listed for the first time. The former is located in the city Museum at Bristol and the latter in the American Museum of Natural History, New York.

Except in a few cases the origin of the eggs is not known. It is probable that many of them were taken in eastern Canada during the period when vessels from Europe visited Newfoundland and other places on that coast to victual with easily available fresh meat and eggs and barrels of salted birds. No doubt sailors brought home a few eggs as souvenirs, like Ostrich and Emu eggs at a later date were brought or sent home by early travellers and settlers in South Africa and Australia. French ships were frequent visitors to these waters and a number of eggs can be traced to French sources. Some British ports, like Poole in Dorset, had trading connections with Newfoundland while the Great Auk was still plentiful. Other eggs, especially those handled by German dealers, probably originated in Iceland.

One fact which has come out clearly in this study is the reduction of Great Auk eggs in private collections (*see* Appendix A). As these collections break up, with the passing of time, most of the eggs have found their way to various museums in Europe and the United States of America. There is one exception. The largest number, at least eleven, is owned by Captain Hewitt. He acquired four, two directly and two indirectly through Jourdain, from another large private collection, that of G. Dawson Rowley whose six specimens were auctioned in 1934. Of the other two, one is still in private hands and the other has been lost trace of. In the latter half of the nineteenth century Robert Champley owned nine eggs of which only one is now in private hands. One of Lord Lilford's five eggs is now in the British Museum; the other four went to Alfred Newton who gave them, along with three other eggs in his possession, to Cambridge University Museum. At the end of last century the Baron d'Hamonville owned four eggs, two of which are still owned privately, one by Captain Hewitt and one by us: the other two went into the great Thayer collection whose ten specimens were donated to the Harvard Museum of Comparative Zoology in 1931-32. This trend of events is only to be expected and will have the advantage of bringing more permanency to these records, as the frequent changes of ownership in the past occurred mostly between private individuals. It should also ensure the best conditions for the safe keeping of these remains of this unfortunate bird.

It would not be possible to name here all those who have so kindly helped in this research, answering endless enquiries, photographing their eggs for comparison, looking up records and data with great generosity. We are indebted to all the Museums and private owners who in this way, have made the work possible. Finally, we must thank Mr. Macdonald for his support and encouragement; and Major W. M. Congreve who put his knowledge and his memories of many past owners at our complete disposal.



## EGG No. 1 (Pl. 1)

*Grieve's No. 31 or 32; Parkin's No. XXV*

LOCATION. British Museum (Natural History), London.

REMARKS. Badly cracked and faded because of being glued to a board and exhibited in the public gallery at Bloomsbury for fifty years.

HISTORY. This specimen and No. 2 were first recorded in the possession of William Bullock, a Liverpool jeweller and goldsmith whose private collection of "natural and foreign curiosities" became famous Museums in both Liverpool and London in the early part of last century. The contents of the Museum were finally sold by auction in 1819. This egg was packed in a box along with a skin of the Great Auk from Papa Westray, Orkney. There is nothing to show that both came from that locality, but it is recorded that Bullock visited the Orkneys in 1813, that he tried without success to get specimens of the Great Auk, which had become rather uncommon by that time, and that some were sent on to him soon after his visit. Egg and skin were auctioned on 16th May, 1819, and bought on behalf of the Trustees of the British Museum by Dr. Leach, Keeper of the Zoology Department, for £16 15s. 6d.

## EGG No. 2 (Pl. 2)

*Grieve's No. 31 or 32; Parkin's No. XXVI*

LOCATION. British Museum (Natural History), London.

REMARKS. The number "139" is inscribed on the small end. Like No. 1 the egg is badly cracked and faded because of being glued to a board and exhibited in the Museum public gallery for many years.

HISTORY. As for No. 1. Originally in Bullock's collection. Bought by Dr. Leach on 3rd June, 1819 for either 12s. or 17s.

## EGG No. 3 (Pl. 3)

*Grieve's No. 23; Figured in colour by Grieve, The Great Auk, 1885, 108, no. 1*

LOCATION. Royal Scottish Museum, Edinburgh.

HISTORY. This egg and No. 4 were first recorded in the collection of Monsieur Dufresne of Paris. Dufresne was originally a dealer in natural history specimens and was also for some time Keeper of the Cabinet of Natural History belonging to the Empress Josephine. In 1815 he entered the Paris Museum as Assistant Keeper and it was while in that position that he sold this and No. 4, as part of an extensive collection, to some members of the Senatus of Edinburgh University in 1819. The collection was acquired by the Senatus as a body in 1855 and transferred by them to the Museum of Science and Art, now the Royal Scottish Museum.

## EGG No. 4 (Pl. 4)

*Grieve's No. 24; Figured in colour by Grieve, The Great Auk, 1885, 108, no. 2*

LOCATION. Royal Scottish Museum, Edinburgh.

HISTORY. As for No. 3.

## EGG No. 5 (Pl. 5)

*Grieve's No. 38; Parkin's No. IX.* Figured by Wolley, *Ootheca Wolleyana*, 1905, 2; *pl. 17*

LOCATION. University Museum of Zoology, Cambridge.

REMARKS. This egg and No. 6 had the word "Egal" or "Egale" written on them; and also the word "Pingouin" was once plainly visible on both.

HISTORY. The first certain record of both eggs is in the collection of a Mr. Moule who was President of the Post Office in Edinburgh from 1820 to 1840. Newton thought that these eggs may have been part of the Dufresne collection bought in 1818 (*see* No. 3) and being poor specimens may have been rejected. One half of Moule's collection, containing these two eggs, was bought by Mr. Cleghorn Murray. At a sale of miscellaneous property belonging to Mr. Murray, in Mr. Dowell's Auction Rooms, on 8th May, 1880, these eggs were bought by Mr. Robert Small, a dealer in natural history specimens for 32s. They were sold in Stevens' Rooms in the same year, 2nd July, and No. 5 was bought by Lord Lilford for £100. Before his death in 1896 Lord Lilford gave this egg, together with Nos. 6, 7 and 8, to Professor Alfred Newton of Cambridge University who presented them to the University Museum.

## EGG No. 6 (Pl. 6)

*Grieve's No. 39; Parkin's No. X.* Figured by Wolley, *Ootheca Wolleyana*, 1905, 2; *pl. 18*

LOCATION. University Museum of Zoology, Cambridge.

HISTORY. Similar to No. 5, with which it was associated during the period of its certain history, both, because of their period of French ownership, probably originating in Newfoundland. Lord Lilford bought it for £107 2s. at the auction sale at Stevens' Rooms on 2nd July, 1880. Before his death in 1896 Lord Lilford gave it to Professor Alfred Newton at Cambridge who presented it to the University Museum.

## EGG No. 7 (Pl. 7)

*Grieve's No. 40.* Figured by Wolley, *Ootheca Wolleyana*, 1905, 2; *pl. 19*

LOCATION. University Museum of Zoology, Cambridge.

REMARKS. Bears the inscription: No. 61.

HISTORY. It is reported that this egg and No. 65 may have belonged to Levaillant who died in 1824, and who may have given them to Professor D. A. Chavannes who died about 1846. Chavannes collection lay in the museum at Lausanne and these eggs remained without notice until discovered about 1860, or possibly later (*see* Wolley, 1905, 2; 378) by the curator Dr. Depierre; this fact was recorded by M. Victor Fatio in 1868. The London dealer G. A. Frank saw them there in 1881 or 1883 and came to an arrangement with the Curator, Dr. Larguier, to have this specimen (inadvertently the better one) in exchange for a gorilla skin and a fine skull and

several bones of the Great Auk. Frank sold it to Lord Lilford for £110. Before his death in 1896 Lord Lilford presented it to Professor Alfred Newton of Cambridge who presented it to the University Museum.

EGG No. 8 (Pl. 8)

Figured by Wolley, *Ootheca Wolleyana*, 1905, 2; pl. 20

LOCATION. University Museum of Zoology, Cambridge.

HISTORY. This egg was originally in the possession of a Middlesex family by name of Way (*see* Grieve 1897: 242). James Way who died in 1816 had some connection with the Newfoundland Fisheries. The egg was passed to his son James Henry Way whose sister Betty Stone Way inherited it and then gave it, in 1872, to Miss Eliza Hill, eldest daughter of Philip Hill, a farmer near Blandford, in whose house the egg was kept as an ornament on the mantelpiece. The family was unaware of its value. A clergyman, named Walker, saw it and advised him to have it identified at the British Museum. He was told by Mr. Bowdler Sharpe that it was an egg of the Great Auk and was put in touch with Lord Lilford to whom he sold it for £50 on 21st April, 1884. Before his death in 1896 Lord Lilford presented it to Professor Alfred Newton of Cambridge who transferred it to the University Museum.

EGG No. 9 (Pl. 9)

*Grieve's No. 41*; Figured by Hewitson, *Eggs of British Birds*, 3rd ed. 1856, 2; pl. 129

LOCATION. University Museum of Zoology, Cambridge.

HISTORY. First heard of when in the possession of Leadbeater, a London dealer in natural history specimens, who sold it in 1846 for £5 to a Mr. J. P. Wilmot who had a collection of natural history specimens. Wilmot died in 1863 and his collection was bequeathed to Mr. G. L. Russell, in whose memory it was presented by his widow to the University Museum, Cambridge, in 1888.

EGG No. 10 (Pl. 10)

*Grieve's No. 48*; Figured by Seebohm, *History of British Birds*, 1885, 3; pl. 40

LOCATION. University Museum of Zoology, Oxford.

HISTORY. First heard of when in the possession of Lady Wilson of Charlton House, Blackheath. She gave it to a relative, Sir Walter C. Trevelyan, who had it for over forty years. He bequeathed it to Oxford University Museum which acquired the egg at his death in 1879.

EGG No. 11 (Pl. 11)

*Grieve's No. 33*

LOCATION. Private collection of Captain Vivian Hewitt of Anglesey, North Wales.

**HISTORY.** This egg was discovered in the Hunterian Museum of the Royal College of Surgeons in London, on 12th December, 1861, by Professor Alfred Newton of Cambridge University. It was one of ten Great Auk eggs in a box labelled "Penguin Eggs—Dr. Dick". It remained in the College Museum with two others, Nos. 12 and 13, until the three of them were sold to Captain Hewitt on 19th June, 1946, for £1000 through the dealer Rosenberg. Incidentally, the proceeds of this sale went to the restoration fund of the museum which had suffered severely during the bombing of London in 1941. The three eggs remained in the strong room of the Museum until 18th November, 1949. Seven of the original ten eggs had been sold soon after their discovery by Professor Newton. Through the agency of Professor Flower three eggs were disposed of to Robert Champley of Scarborough in 1864 in exchange for a collection of anatomical specimens which Champley had bought for £45. (See Nos. 24, 25, 26); and four were put up for auction at Stevens' Rooms on 11th July, 1865 (see Nos. 17, 28, 29, 37).

## EGG No. 12 (Pl. 12)

*Grieve's No. 34; Figured by Seebohm, Eggs of British Birds, 1896, pl. 28*

**LOCATION.** Private collection of Captain Vivian Hewitt.

**HISTORY.** As for No. 11.

## EGG No. 13 (Pl. 13)

*Grieve's No. 35; Figured by Seebohm, Eggs of British Birds, 1896, pl. 27*

**LOCATION.** Private collection of Captain Vivian Hewitt.

**HISTORY.** As for Nos. 11 and 12.

## EGG No. 14 (Pl. 14)

*Grieve's No. 30; Figured by Seebohm, History of British Birds, 1885, 3; pl. 41*

**LOCATION.** City of Liverpool Museums.

**REMARKS.** This egg is in perfect condition and one of the most beautiful existing.

**HISTORY.** According to Robert Champley this egg was in the 13th Earl of Derby's Museum. At his death in 1851, the egg, together with Derby's collection, was presented to the City of Liverpool. Although this Museum was severely damaged during the 1939-45 war, the specimen was unharmed.

## EGG No. 15 (Pl. 15)

*Grieve's No. 44; Figured by Hewitson, Coloured Illustrations of the Eggs of British Birds, 2nd ed., 1846, pl. 115*

**LOCATION.** Hancock Museum, Newcastle-upon-Tyne.

**REMARKS.** Hancock made a cast of this egg. It is also briefly described by Passler, *Journal fur Ornithologie*, 1860, p. 59.



**HISTORY.** Believed to have been taken on the Island of Eldey, Iceland, in the period 1830-39 (probably 1831) along with a skin of the Great Auk. This egg appeared first in the possession of an apothecary of Flensburg called Mechlenburg from whom it was purchased, through the agency of a Mr. Sewell, by John Hancock in 1844 or 1845.

EGG No. 16 (Pl. 16)

*Grieve's No. 56*

**LOCATION.** Natural History Museum, Scarborough.

**HISTORY.** First recorded when the dealer Gardner obtained this egg from a collection in Derbyshire which he refused to name. Mr. Alwin Bell bought it from Gardner, probably some years previous to 1867. Bell bequeathed it to the Scarborough Philosophical Society, who in turn donated it to the new Natural History Museum of Scarborough. In the Daily Telegraph of 29th January, 1906, it was reported that the egg was found lying on a chair broken. It was repaired and placed in greater security.

EGG No. 17 (Pl. 17)

*Grieve's No. 68; Parkin's No. IV.* Figured by Parkin, *The Great Auk*, 1911, *pl. 2*

**LOCATION.** Museum of the Spalding Gentlemen's Society, Spalding.

**REMARKS.** A very fine undamaged specimen.

**HISTORY.** This is one of ten eggs first recorded in the Hunterian Museum of the Royal College of Surgeons (*see* No. 11) and one of the four eggs sold by auction at Stevens' Rooms on 11th July, 1865. It was bought by the Rev. G. W. Braikenridge of Clevedon, Somerset, for £29. After his death in 1882 it became the property of his sister, who sold it on 18th May, 1884, to Mr. Edward Bidwell of Twickenham, in whose possession it remained for 27 years. Mr. Thomas Parkin of Hastings, bought it from Mr. Bidwell in April 1911. It came up for sale once more at Stevens' Rooms on 13th May, 1931, and was purchased by Mr. Ashley Kay Maples for £265, who made a gift of it to the Spalding Gentlemen's Society, of which he was the President for many years.

EGG No. 18 (Pl. 18)

*Grieve's No. 57; Parkin's No. XXII.* Figured by Thienemann, *Einhundert Tafeln colorirter Abbildungen von Vögeleiren*, 1845-54, *pl. 96*

**LOCATION.** Castle Museum, Norwich.

**HISTORY.** Herr Fr. Schulze of Leipzig received this egg along with others from Iceland. He sold it in 1835 to Th. Schulze of Neuahaldensleben, along with some other birds' eggs for 7 thalers (then 1 guinea). In 1857 Herr G. H. Kunz of Leipzig bought it from him for 50 thalers (then £7 10s.). Kunz sold it to Mr. Robert Champley of Scarborough in July 1859 for £18. It was one of nine owned by Mr. Champley.



Some years after Robert Champley's death in 1895 it was acquired by Colonel H. G. Barclay of Colney Hall, near Norwich, for his collection. In 1936 Mr. Evelyn Barclay presented it to the Castle Museum, Norwich.

EGG No. 19 (Pl. 19)

*Grieve's No. 58.* Figured by F. W. J. Baedeker, *Die Eier der Europaeischen Voegel*, 1855-63, *pl. 70, no. 3 (top)*

LOCATION. Zoologisches Forschungsinstitut und Museum Alexander Koenig, Bonn.

HISTORY. It is recorded with some certainty that Mechlenburg a dealer of Flensburg obtained this egg from Iceland together with a skin of the bird which is thought to have laid it. Robert Champley of Scarborough bought both from Mechlenburg in 1861 for £45. After Champley's death in 1895 his eggs remained in the possession of his daughter for several years. They were sold eventually and Professor Alexander Koenig of Bonn acquired this one. He died in 1940 and this egg together with the other two in his possession, Nos. 21 and 35, went to the Museum which bears his name.

EGG No. 20 (Pl. 20)

*Grieve's No. 60*

LOCATION. British Museum (Natural History), London.

HISTORY. It was found by Robert Champley of Scarborough in the Museum of Anatomy of the University of Pavia, Italy, covered with dirt and placed in a wooden cup to look like an acorn. It was part of a collection given 100 years previously by Professor Spallanzi, a lecturer at the University at that time. Champley bought it for 5 napoleons. After Champley's death in 1895 Lord Rothschild acquired it from Rutter, Champley's son-in-law, on 1st November, 1901. It was bequeathed by Lord Rothschild to the Trustees of the British Museum (Natural History) who received it in 1937.

EGG No. 21 (Pl. 21)

*Grieve's No. 59*

LOCATION. Zoologisches Forschungsinstitut und Museum Alexander Koenig, Bonn.

HISTORY. In 1861 Robert Champley of Scarborough visited the French naturalist Parzudaki, in Paris and was told of an egg owned by the Abbe de la Motte who had obtained it some 40 years earlier from French whalers. Parzudaki bought it for him for £24. After Champley's death in 1895, Professor Alexander Koenig bought it from Rowland Ward, the London dealer. When Koenig died in 1940 this egg together with the other two in his possession, Nos. 19 and 35 went to the Museum which bears his name.

## EGG No. 22 (Pl. 22)

*Grieve's No. 61; Parkin's No. XXI*

LOCATION. Private collection of Major Sir John Stirling, K.T., of Fairburn, Ross-shire, Scotland.

HISTORY. First recorded as one of two specimens (*see* No. 23) in the possession of Fairmaire, a dealer in zoological specimens in Paris. It was bought by Rowland Ward the London dealer who sold it to Robert Champley of Scarborough for £25 in 1864. Following Champley's death in 1895 it was put up for sale at Stevens' Rooms on 17th April 1902 and bought by William Stirling of Fairburn for £252. It then passed to his son, Sir John Stirling.

## EGG No. 23 (Pl. 23)

*Grieve's No. 62.* Figured by Thayer, *Auk*, 1905, **22**; *pl. 14 (lower)*: and by Dresser, *Eggs of the Birds of Europe*, 1910, *fig. 1*

LOCATION. Museum of Comparative Zoology, Harvard College, Cambridge, Mass., U.S.A.

HISTORY. This is the second egg which was in the possession of Fairmaire the Paris dealer (*see* No. 22). Rowland Ward bought it from him and sold it to Robert Champley of Scarborough in 1864 for £30. In 1905 it was sold for £200 through Rowland Ward of London to Colonel J. E. Thayer of Lancaster, Mass., U.S.A., for his private Museum. It passed with the Thayer Collection to the Museum of Comparative Zoology, Harvard, in 1931-32.

## EGG No. 24 (Pl. 24)

*Grieve's No. 63.* Figured by Thayer, *Auk*, 1905, **22**; *pl. 14 (upper)*: and by Dresser, *Eggs of the Birds of Europe*, 1910, *fig. 2*

LOCATION. Museum of Comparative Zoology, Harvard College, Cambridge, Mass. U.S.A.

HISTORY. One of the ten eggs found by Professor Alfred Newton of Cambridge in the Hunterian Museum of the Royal College of Surgeons, London in 1861 (*see* No. 11). Through the agency of Professor Flower of the College, Robert Champley of Scarborough acquired this egg in 1864 in exchange for anatomical specimens. In 1906 the egg was sold for £315 through Rowland Ward of London to Colonel J. E. Thayer of Lancaster, Mass., U.S.A. It passed with the Thayer Collection to the Museum of Comparative Zoology, Harvard, in 1931-32.

## EGG No. 25 (Pl. 25)

*Grieve's No. 64*

LOCATION. Museum of Comparative Zoology, Harvard College, Cambridge, Mass., U.S.A.

HISTORY. Similar to No. 24.

## EGG No. 26 (Pl. 26)

*Grieve's No. 65.* Figured in the *Annual Report of the Museum of Comparative Zoology*, 1906, *pl. 2*

LOCATION. Museum of Comparative Zoology, Harvard College, Cambridge, Mass., U.S.A.

HISTORY. Similar to 24 and 25. This egg was bought in 1905 through Rowland Ward of London by Harvard University with part of the donation of 5,000 dollars given to them by Col. William Barbour of New York. Barbour was father of Dr. Thomas Barbour, director of the Museum of Comparative Zoology at that time.

## EGG No. 27 (Pl. 27)

*Grieve's No. 19*

LOCATION. British Museum (Natural History), London.

HISTORY. Believed to be one of two eggs collected in Iceland as late as 1844 and taken to Copenhagen and to have been bought there by J. de Capel Wise about 1851. It came into the possession of Williams, a London dealer, who sold it to Canon Tristram in 1853 for £35. Philip Crowley of Croydon, Surrey, purchased the whole of the Tristram collection including this egg. Finally it reached the British Museum (Natural History) in 1937 with the Crowley bequest.

## EGG No. 28 (Pl. 28)

*Grieve's No. 67; Parkin's No. VI*

LOCATION. Private collection of Captain Vivian Hewitt of Anglesey, North Wales.

HISTORY. One of the ten eggs of the Hunterian Museum of the Royal College of Surgeons discovered by Professor Alfred Newton of Cambridge in 1861 (*see* No. 11). One of four sold on behalf of the College at Stevens' Rooms, London, on 11th July, 1865, and bought by the Rev. Henry Burney of Woburn, Bedfordshire for £31 10s. At a later auction sale at Stevens' Rooms, it was sold to Mr. Leopold Field of Harlesden, Middlesex, on 13th December, 1887 for £168. Mr. Herbert Massey of Didsbury, Cheshire, through the agency of Marsden, acquired it on 4th September, 1891, for £220. It was finally bought by Captain Vivian Hewitt from the executors of Mr. Massey, about 1939.

## EGG No. 29 (Pl. 29)

*Grieve's No. 37; Parkin's No. VII*

LOCATION. British Museum (Natural History), London.

HISTORY. One of ten eggs found in the Hunterian Museum of the Royal College of Surgeons in 1861 (*see* No. 11). One of four eggs sold on behalf of the College at Stevens' Rooms on 11th July, 1865 and bought by Mr. A. W. Crichton of Broadwater Hall, Salop for £29. At Crichton's death it passed to Lord Lilford of Oundle, North-

amptonshire. It went to the Trustees of the British Museum (Natural History), along with a mounted Great Auk, by bequest in 1949.

EGG No. 30 (Pl. 30)

*Grieve's No. 54*

LOCATION. Private collection of Captain Vivian Hewitt of Anglesey, North Wales.

HISTORY. In 1835 or 1845 Mr. John Malcolm bought this egg with a skin of the Great Auk from Leadbeater, a London dealer. When Professor Newton enquired as to their origin, all Mr. Malcolm could tell him was that he thought they were collected on one of the Arctic Expeditions and that he bought them for no more than a few pounds. The egg and the skin remained in the Malcolm family until 1948, when they were sold, on 2nd July, to Captain Vivian Hewitt.

EGG No. 31 (Pl. 31)

*Grieve's No. 45; Parkin's No. XIV.* Figured by Butler, *British Birds with their nests and eggs*, 1896-98, 6, *pl. 23, fig. 463*

LOCATION. Museum of Comparative Zoology, Harvard College, Cambridge, Mass., U.S.A.

REMARKS. Exhibited by Edward Bidwell at the meeting of the British Ornithologists' Club on 17th April, 1895. It was described as "especially remarkable for the pitted nature of its shell".

HISTORY. First recorded in the possession of a Mon. Perrot, a Paris dealer in zoological specimens, from whom it was bought by Sir William Milner of Nunappleton, Yorkshire on 23rd November, 1847 for 200 francs (about £8). It passed to his successor Sir Frederick Milner who offered it for sale at Stevens' Rooms on 23rd April, 1895. It was bought for £189 by T. G. Middlebrook, owner of the public house "Edinburgh Castle", Camden Town, London, who kept a Museum on the premises for the interest of his patrons. At Middlebrook's death the egg was bought on 17th January, 1906, through Rowland Ward, by Colonel John E. Thayer of Lancaster, Mass., U.S.A., for £220. It passed with the Thayer collection to the Museum of Comparative Zoology, Harvard, in 1931-32.

EGG No. 32 (Pl. 32)

*Grieve's No. 17:* Figured by Wolley, *Ootheca Wolleyana*, 1905, 2: *pl. 16*

LOCATION. University Museum of Zoology, Cambridge.

REMARKS. Hancock made a plaster cast in 1860.

HISTORY. Regarding the origin of this egg one conjecture is that it came from the Island of Eldey, Iceland, about 1841 and went to Hamburg. It was in the possession of a Robert Dunn of Hull, Yorkshire, from whom it was bought by a Mr. Salmon in 1842. The Salmon collection was bequeathed to the Linnean Society, London, but before it was handed over it is thought that a dealer by name of Calvert,



who had access to the collection, substituted a suitably marked swan's egg for the Great Auk egg (*vide* Newton in Wolley 1905, 2: 373). Newton bought the egg from Calvert in 1860 and eventually gave it to the University Museum along with two others. (Nos. 33 and 34.)

## EGG No. 33 (Pl. 33)

*Grieve's No. 15*: Figured by Wolley, *Ootheca Wolleyana*, 1905, 2: *pl. 14*

LOCATION. University Museum of Zoology, Cambridge.

HISTORY. Believed to be one of a number of Great Auk eggs obtained by Herr Brandt, a Hamburg dealer from the Island of Eldey, Iceland, in 1835. Wolley records (1905, 2: 365) that Brandt obtained eggs from Iceland through a Carl Sieman of Reykjavik. Sold by Brandt to John Gould on 6th September, 1835, for about £1 3s. 4d (Records vary between £1 8s. and £1 16s.) Gould sold it to the Rev. D. Barclay Bevan of Burton Latimer, near Higham Ferrers, on 1st November, 1836, for £1 8s. Barclay Bevan sold it to John Wolley on 12th December, 1846 for the same price. While in Wolley's possession it was sent to J. Hancock for copying on 22nd February, 1858 and returned on 25th March of the same year. At Wolley's death in 1859 his collection including this egg and No. 34 passed to the brothers Alfred and Edward Newton. Alfred Newton gave it to the University Museum.

## EGG No. 34 (Pl. 34)

*Grieve's No. 16*: Figured by Wolley, *Ootheca Wolleyana*, 1905, 2: *pl. 15*

LOCATION. University Museum of Zoology, Cambridge.

REMARKS. Hancock made a plaster cast in 1858.

HISTORY. It is believed that it may have come from the Island of Eldey, Iceland, prior to 1837, and may have passed through the hands of a Hamburg dealer. The first owner was traced as Augustus Mason, to whom this egg had been given, when he was at school, by an unknown lady. From Augustus Mason it passed to his brother Alfred, who gave it to a school friend called Thomas E. Davies, who in turn gave it to another school friend called Alfred Dudley. Dudley parted with it sometime between 1840 and 1845, giving it, along with other eggs, to a nephew, William Bree, son of a Warwickshire naturalist. Bree gave it to Mr. J. P. Wilmot of Leamington who gave it in exchange (with Bree's permission) to John Wolley in 1856 (*see* Wolley, 1905, 2: 367). At Wolley's death in 1859 this egg along with No. 33 went to the brothers Alfred and Edward Newton; and finally from Alfred Newton to the University Museum.

## EGG No. 35 (Pl. 35)

*Grieve's No. 18*

LOCATION. Zoologisches Forschungsinstitut und Museum Alexander Koenig, Bonn.

REMARKS. Damaged at both ends with a very large hole at the blunt end.

HISTORY. First known to have been in the possession of the family of Mr. E. Burgh for over 70 years. Burgh sold it to Mr. Rocke of Aston on Clun, Shropshire, in 1869. On 14th January, 1920 it was sold by Rowland Ward to Professor Alexander Koenig for £200. At Koenig's death in 1940 this egg and the other two in his possession, Nos. 19 and 21 went to the Museum which bears his name.

EGG No. 36 (Pl. 36)

*Grieve's No. 8; Figured by Naumann, Naturgeschichte der Vögel Mitteleuropas, 1897-1905, pl. 12, fig. 1*

LOCATION. British Museum (Natural History), London.

HISTORY. It is believed that this egg originated from Iceland and was once in the possession of Herr Brandt, a naturalist dealer of Hamburg, some time between 1835 and 1839, and that he sold it to a rich senator of that city whose collection was eventually bought by Schulz, a dealer in Leipzig. Schulz sold it to Herr Hühnel, a barber in Leipzig, for it is said 7 thalers (about £1 1s.). Some time before Hühnel's death, probably about 1870, Count Rödern of Breslau bought it from him for 200 thalers (about £30). In about March 1889, the Hon. Walter Rothschild acquired it with Count Rödern's collection. It was bequeathed to the Trustees of the British Museum (Natural History) in 1937 by Lord Rothschild.

EGG No. 37 (Pl. 37)

*Grieve's No. 9; Parkin's No. V*

LOCATION. Private collection of Captain Vivian Hewitt of Bryn Aber, Anglesey, North Wales.

HISTORY. One of ten eggs found by Professor Alfred Newton in the Hunterian Museum of the Royal College of Surgeons and one of four of these sold by auction at Stevens' Rooms on 11th July, 1865 (*see* No. 11). It was bought by John Gould for G. Dawson Rowley of Brighton for £33. At Dawson Rowley's death it passed to his son G. FydeU Rowley, whose executors put it up for auction again at Stevens' Rooms on 14th November, 1934, where it was bought by Captain Vivian Hewitt for £315.

EGG No. 38 (Pl. 38)

*Grieve's No. 10*

LOCATION. Not known.

REMARKS. This egg was not properly blown and the pointed end is broken leaving jagged edges.

HISTORY. It is said that this egg originally belonged to Captain Cook. It was in the possession of John Gould who sold it to G. Dawson Rowley of Brighton on 16th March, 1863. At his death it passed to his son G. FydeU Rowley whose executors put it up for auction at Stevens' Rooms on 14th November, 1934, where it was

bought by Sir Bernard Eckstein of Wickfield, Sussex, for £273. It was sold in 1947 but we have been unable to trace who bought it. Sir Bernard Eckstein died on 10th May, 1948.

## EGG No. 39 (Pl. 39)

*Grieve's No. 11*

LOCATION. Presumed to be in the private collection of Captain Vivian Hewitt of Anglesey, North Wales.

REMARKS. This egg was badly damaged and was crudely repaired by Yarrell.

HISTORY. First known to have been in the possession of Leadbeater, a London dealer, who sold it to Mr. J. P. Wilmot for his collection. According to Wilmot it was imperfect and was restored by Yarrell. Wilmot gave it to Mr. Bourman Labrey of Manchester who sold it on 21st October, 1871, to G. Dawson Rowley. At his death it went to his son G. Fydell Rowley. On 14th November, 1934, it was auctioned at Stevens' Rooms and bought by the Rev. F. C. R. Jourdain for £147. The Jourdain collection was dispersed, this egg being purchased by Captain Hewitt, in whose possession it is presumed to be now.

## EGG No. 40 (Pl. 40)

*Grieve's No. 12*

LOCATION. Presumed to be in the private collection of Captain Vivian Hewitt of Anglesey, North Wales.

REMARKS. An egg which bears hardly any markings.

HISTORY. First recorded as hanging with other sea birds eggs on a string outside a shop in Paris. It was bought by William Yarrell for Lady Cust for the sum of 5 francs. Then G. Dawson Rowley acquired it in 1878 shortly before his death. It passed into the hands of his son G. Fydell Rowley and was then auctioned at Stevens' Rooms on 14th November, 1934 when it was bought by the Rev. F. C. R. Jourdain for £220 10s. On the dispersal of the Jourdain collection it was bought by Captain Hewitt.

## EGG No. 41 (Pl. 41)

*Grieve's No. 13; Parkin's No. 1*

LOCATION. Private collection of Captain Vivian Hewitt of Anglesey, North Wales.

REMARKS. Still visible on this egg is the inscription "330A No. 1" written by Lord Garvagh.

HISTORY. The French Vicomte de Barde owned this egg for some 30 years, with two others (*see* No. 42 and 46). In 1825 his collection went to the Boulogne Museum. In 1852 the Curator of the museum exchanged this egg and the other two for an ostrich skin with James Gardner a dealer in London. Soon after their arrival in London they were bought by T. H. Potts. This egg was purchased for Lord Garvagh

for £30 on 24th May, 1853. After the death of Lord Garvagh in 1871, it was sold to G. Dawson Rowley on 7th April, 1873. Like Nos. 37, 39, 40, it was sold to Captain Vivian Hewitt on 14th November, 1934, at Stevens' Rooms, fetching £315.

EGG No. 42 (Pl. 42)

*Grieve's No. 14; Parkin's No. II*

LOCATION. Private collection of Mr. R. Kreuger of Helsinki, Finland.

REMARKS. This egg was damaged at both ends and subsequently repaired. (It is said that it was dropped by one of Lord Garvagh's footmen.)

HISTORY. Like Nos. 41 and 46 it was first known in the collection of the Vicomte de Barde in the late eighteenth century where it remained for some 30 years. It passed with his egg collection to the Boulogne Museum in 1825. In 1852 the Curator exchanged it together with the other two Great Auk eggs, for an ostrich skin, with James Gardner, the dealer in London. T. H. Potts bought it from Gardner along with Nos. 41 and 46. On 24th May, 1853, Potts offered it for sale, like No. 41, at Stevens' Rooms but bought it in for £29. It was put up for sale again on 7th April, 1854, and was bought by Lord Garvagh for £20. After the death of Lord Garvagh, in 1871, this egg and No. 41 went to G. Dawson Rowley. At the sale held at Stevens' Rooms on 14th November, 1934, it was bought by G. N. Carter of Wolseley Place, Manchester for £105. Some time after Carter's death in July 1956 it became the property of Mr. R. Kreuger of Helsinki, Finland.

EGG No. 43 (Pl. 43)

*Grieve's No. 55; Parkin's No. XI.* Figured by Parkin, *The Great Auk*, 1911, *pl. 3*

LOCATION. The City Museum, Bristol.

HISTORY. This egg was first heard of in the possession of Mon. Theibaut de Berneaud of Paris. Then Lefevre, a Paris dealer, sold it to Williams a London dealer. On 6th October, 1851, it was bought from Williams for £18 by Mr. Lancelot Holland who gave it to his daughter, Mrs. Henry Wise of Brockham, near Reigate, and subsequently of Charlton Court, Steyning, near Brighton. On 12th March, 1888 it was bought at Stevens' Rooms by James Gardner, the dealer, for £225. He sold it to Sir J. H. Greville Smyth of Ashton Court, Somerset, it is said for £315. At his death in 1901 Lady Greville Smyth presented it to the City Museum, Bristol, together with the rest of his egg collection.

EGG No. 44 (Pl. 44)

*Grieve's No. 25; Parkin's No. XVI.* Figured by Thayer, *The Auk*, 1912, **29**; *pl. 12*

LOCATION. Museum of Comparative Zoology, Harvard College, Cambridge, Mass., U.S.A.

REMARKS. There is a small fracture on one side.



**HISTORY.** The first known owner was Friedrich Schultz of Dresden, Saxony, who sold it on 23rd May, 1841, to Hugh Reid of Doncaster for £2 6s., some say, £5. Reid sold it to Mr. James Hack Tuke of Hitchin, Herts, prior to 1856 for it is referred to by Hewitson (1856) as being in Tuke's possession. Mr. Tuke lent it to the Walden Museum, whose Curator, then a Mr. Maynard, made a cast of it. After the death of Mr. Tuke, it was sold by his executors, by auction at Stevens' Rooms on 20th April, 1896. Mr. Heatly Noble purchased it for Mr. William Newall, 27 Hans Place, London, for £168. In January, 1912, it was purchased by Rowland Ward for Colonel J. E. Thayer of Lancaster, Mass., U.S.A. Like all the other Great Auk eggs owned by Colonel Thayer, it went with the rest of his egg collection to Harvard College Museum in 1931-32.

EGG No. 45 (Pl. 45)

*Grieve's No. 49.* Figured in the *Report of the Castle Museum, Norwich, 1910*

**LOCATION.** Castle Museum, Norwich.

**HISTORY.** It is said to be Icelandic in origin. First recorded in the possession of Herr Brandt, a Hamburg dealer, from whom it was bought by Dr. Pitman. About 1850 Pitman sold it with the rest of his collection to Henry Walter of Pappewick, Nottinghamshire. Later it was bought by James Reeve, Curator of the Castle Museum, Norwich. On his retirement in 1910 he presented it to the Museum.

EGG No. 46 (Pl. 46)

*Grieve's No. 46; Parkin's No. XVII.* Figured by Butler, *British Birds with their nests and eggs*, 1896-98, 6; *pl. 23, fig. 464*

**LOCATION.** Museum of Comparative Zoology, Harvard College, Cambridge, Mass., U.S.A.

**HISTORY.** One of three eggs once owned by the Vicomte de Barde (*see* Nos. 41 and 42) and which in 1825 went with his collection to the Boulogne Museum. In 1852 the Curator exchanged the three eggs for an ostrich skin with James Gardner a dealer in London. All three were bought by Mr. T. H. Potts who sold the other two but kept this one and took it with him to New Zealand. After his death in 1888 it was left to his widow in Christchurch. In 1891 it was purchased by Mr. Henry O. Forbes, then Curator of the Canterbury Museum in Christchurch, it was said for a friend in England. It returned there for it was next recorded in the collection of Mr. Leopold Field of London, who subsequently sold it to Rowland Ward. On 13th April, 1897, it was put up for sale by auction at Stevens' Rooms and was purchased by Mr. T. G. Middlebrook of the "Edinburgh Castle", Camden Town, London, for £294. (Mr. Middlebrook kept a "Free Museum" in his public house for the entertainment of his patrons. At one time he owned four Great Auk eggs.) In January 1912 Rowland Ward re-purchased this egg from Mr. Middlebrook for Colonel Thayer of Lancaster, Mass., U.S.A., who finally presented it with his egg collection to the Harvard College Museum in 1931-32.

## EGG No. 47 (Pl. 47)

*Grieve's No. 26*

LOCATION. University Museum of Zoology, Copenhagen.

HISTORY. Nothing is known of its history. In a letter dated 4th February, 1885, Professor J. Steenstrup stated to Symington Grieve that this was the only egg of the Great Auk known to be in Copenhagen.

## EGG No. 48 (Pl. 48)

*Grieve's No. 2*

LOCATION. Museum d'Histoire Naturelle, Angers, France.

REMARKS. Badly damaged and reconstructed in plaster at one end.

HISTORY. According to Professor Blasius it was one of four Great Auk eggs on a string seen in a shop at Brest in 1859. On 12th May, 1862, it was bought by Mon. A. Boreau, then Curator of the Angers Museum.

## EGG No. 49 (Pl. 49)

*Grieve's No. 50*

LOCATION. Museum d'Histoire Naturelle, Paris.

REMARKS. This egg has two circular bands less faded than the rest indicating that it must have been mounted and on show for a long time. The surface of the egg is also partly covered with some sort of varnish giving it a shiny appearance.

HISTORY. All that is known about this egg prior to its entry into the Paris Museum is that sometime in the eighteenth century it belonged to the Abbe Manesse.

## EGG No. 50 (Pl. 50)

*Grieve's No. 51*

LOCATION. Museum d'Histoire Naturelle, Paris.

REMARKS. Bears the inscription, partly faded, "St. Pierre-Miquelon".

HISTORY. The inscription on the egg suggests that it originated in the New World, probably Newfoundland. This egg and No. 51 were discovered in the Lycee de Versailles in December 1873.

## EGG No. 51 (Pl. 51)

*Grieve's No. 52*

LOCATION. Museum d'Histoire Naturelle, Paris.

HISTORY. Similar to No. 50.

## EGG No. 52 (Pl. 52)

*Grieve's No. 43; Parkin's No. III.* Figured by Hewitson, *Eggs of British Birds*, 1846, 3; *pl. 145, fig. 1*, and by d'Hamonville, *Mém. Soc. Zool. France*, 1888, 1; *pl. 5, fig. A*

LOCATION. Private collection of Captain Vivian Hewitt, Bryn Aber, Anglesey, North Wales.

HISTORY. The Baron Louis d'Hamonville, who later acquired this egg, saw it in William Yarrell's collection in 1851. He recorded (1888: 225) that Yarrell assured him "it is an English egg" by which he understood that it had originated in the Orkneys or Hebrides. Other reports are that Yarrell discovered it in a fisherman's cottage at Boulogne (Grieve, 1885: 105), or in a curiosity shop in Paris (Grieve, 1897: 250) and bought it for a few francs. At Yarrell's death it was auctioned at Stevens' Rooms on 5th December, 1856, and was bought by James Gardner for Mr. Frederick Bond of Kingsbury, Middlesex, for £21. It was later sold to the Baron Louis d'Hamonville of Meurthe et Moselle, France, in 1875, through the agency of Mon. Dubois of Paris. On 22nd February, 1894, it again appeared at Stevens' Rooms where it was bought by Sir Vauncey Crewe of Calke Abbey, Derbyshire, for £315. This was the record price, up to that time, for a Great Auk egg. Again it was offered for sale at Stevens' Rooms on 15th December, 1925, and bought by a Mr. Hirsch for £320 5s. The next owner was Commander A. T. Wilson, of Garth House, Garth, Breconshire. In 1934 F. G. Lupton of London acquired it for £305. At his death, his collection was bought and sold again by the firm of Gowland, this egg becoming the property of Captain Vivian Hewitt.

## EGG No. 53 (Pl. 53)

*Grieve's No. 3, 4, or 5; Parkin's No. XX.* Figured by d'Hamonville, *Mém. Soc. Zool. France*, 1888, 1; *pl. 5, fig. D*

LOCATION. Private collection of J. W. Tomkinson of Trimpey, Worcestershire.

HISTORY. In 1855 the Baron Henri de Veze purchased it from the Paris dealer Parzudaki for 500 francs. In 1858 the Comte Raoul de Barace of Angers acquired it through the agency of Fairmaire of Paris. After the Comte's death, it was sold, with his collection, to the Baron Louis d'Hamonville in March 1887, making his number of Great Auk eggs four. (*See also* Nos. 52, 54, and 55.) After his death it was offered for sale at Stevens' Rooms on 29th October, 1901, where it was purchased by Mr. Herbert Massey of Ivy Lea, Burnage, Didsbury, Cheshire for £252. On 13th February, 1901, Edward Bidwell had exhibited this egg at the meeting of the British Ornithologist's Club on behalf of Mr. Henry Stevens. In December 1939, Gerald Tomkinson of Wolverley, Worcestershire, purchased it from H. Massey's executors, through the agency of Mr. G. H. Lings, for £400. With it he obtained also a set of photographs of 69 Great Auk eggs taken by Edward Bidwell, together with the list of 71 eggs he published in 1892. At the death of Gerald Tomkinson in 1959 it passed to his son, John W. Tomkinson.

## EGG No. 54 (Pl. 54)

*Grieve's No. 3, 4 or 5; Parkin's No. XV.* Figured in *Mém. Soc. Zool. France*, 1888, *pl. 6, fig. C*

LOCATION. Museum of Comparative Zoology, Harvard College, Cambridge, Mass., U.S.A.

REMARKS. This egg is slightly cracked but noted for its beautiful pale green markings and blotches.

HISTORY. Believed to have been taken in Iceland about 1830 and brought to France by a ship owner of St. Malo. He bequeathed it to Comte Raoul de Barace of Angers. At his death it was purchased with his collection by the Baron Louis d'Hamonville in March 1887 along with Nos. 53 and 55. On 25th June, 1895 it was sold by auction at Stevens' Rooms to Jay & Co., fur merchants of London for £173 5s. Again it was offered for sale at the same place on 27th June, 1897 and was purchased by T. G. Middlebrook of the public house "Edinburgh Castle", Camden Town, London, for his museum, for the sum of £168. It was afterwards obtained by Colonel J. E. Thayer of Lancaster, Mass., U.S.A. through Rowland Ward, in 1905 for £200. In 1931-32 it went to the Harvard College Museum with Colonel Thayer's collection.

## EGG No. 55 (Pl. 55)

*Grieve's No. 3, 4, or 5; Parkin's No. XVIII.* Figured in *Mém. Soc. Zool. France*, 1888, *pl. 6, fig. B*

LOCATION. Museum of Comparative Zoology, Harvard College, Cambridge, Mass., U.S.A.

HISTORY. Similar to No. 54 up to 19th July, 1899, when Baron Louis d'Hamonville offered it for sale by auction at Stevens' Rooms. It was bought by T. G. Middlebrook of the public house "Edinburgh Castle", Camden Town, for the sum of £315. In 1906 Rowland Ward bought this egg for £110 on behalf of Colonel John Thayer, Lancaster, Mass., U.S.A. In 1931-32 this egg, with Thayer's collection, became the property of Harvard College Museum.

## EGG No. 56 (Pl. 56)

*Grieve's No. 6 or 7*

LOCATION. Believed to be in the private collection of Captain Vivian Hewitt of Anglesey, North Wales.

HISTORY. This egg and No. 57 were brought by the Captain of a whaling vessel, probably from Newfoundland, and given to a merchant in Bergues, France, who in turn gave them to a young man starting an egg collection. After his death the whole egg collection was bought by Mon. de Meezemaker, and then about 1900 it was sold to Mon. Alfred Vaucher of Lausanne. His son, Jacques Vaucher, remembers selling



it in March 1937 to an Englishman who, from the description he gives of him and of his special interest in eggs of the birds of prey, seems to be Captain Vivian Hewitt.

We have been unable to get confirmation from Captain Hewitt that the egg is in his possession.

EGG No. 57 (Pl. 57)

*Grieve's No. 6 or 7*

LOCATION. Private possession of Mon. Heim de Balzac of 34 Rue Hamelin, Paris.

HISTORY. Similar to No. 56 except that Mon. de Meezemaker sold it to Mon. Heim de Balsac in 1924 for 8,000 francs (about £100).

EGG No. 58 (Pl. 58)

*Grieve's No. 20; Parkin's No. XXIII*

LOCATION. The University, Aberdeen, Natural History Department.

REMARKS. When exhibited at the meeting of the British Ornithologists' Club on 17th June, 1908, by Mr. E. Bidwell, it was shown that this egg bore the inscription "Pingouin", which is believed to have been written by Mon. Dufresne, keeper of the King's Cabinet in Paris in the early nineteenth century.

HISTORY. Possibly at one time in the French Royal collections (*see* Remarks). From 1847 to 1863 known to have been in the collection of Mon. J. Hardy of Dieppe, a ship owner and distinguished ornithologist, to whom it is thought it may have been given by Temminck as a token of gratitude for some service. After Hardy's death it became the property of his son Michel who apparently lent it to the Dieppe Museum, where his father had already deposited his collection of birds. Michel Hardy's daughter Madame Ussel of Eu later must have become the owner for she had it put up for sale at Stevens' Rooms in London on 9th February, 1909, when it was bought by Mr. R. Hay Fenton of Lombard Street, London. On 11th March, 1909, Mr. Hay Fenton presented it to the Natural History Department of Aberdeen University.

EGG No. 59 (Pl. 59)

*Grieve's No. 21; Figured in Thienemann, Einhundert Tafeln coloriter Abbildungen von Vogeleiern, 1845-54, pl. IV c (i.e. 96): and by Naumann, Naturgeschichte der Vögel Mitteleuropas, 1897-1905, pl. 12, fig. 4*

LOCATION. Not known.

HISTORY. Once in the possession of Fredk. Thienemann of Dresden and then in the Staatliches Museum für Tierkunde, Dresden. This Museum was badly damaged during the 1939-45 war and it has not been possible to find out what happened to the egg. It is believed to have been among the precious objects stored in twelve big cases in the historic fortress of Königheim. These cases disappeared following the Russian occupation.

## EGG No. 60 (Pl. 60)

*Grieve's No. 47*; Figured by Naumann, *Naturgeschichte der Vögel Mitteleuropas*, 1897-1905, *pl. 12, fig. 2*

LOCATION. Museum of Natural History, Oldenburg, East Germany.

HISTORY. Little is known about this egg and what has become of it. Believed to have been in the collection of Dr. Graba of Kiel, whose collection went to the Grand Ducal Museum, Oldenburg, about 1839. It was photographed there by Edward Bidwell about 1892. On the authority of Dr. E. Stresemann of Berlin it is still in the Museum at Oldenburg.

## EGG No. 61 (Pl. 61)

*Grieve's No. 22*. Figured by Naumann, *Naturgeschichte der Vögel Mitteleuropas*, 1897-1905, *pl. 12, fig. 3*

LOCATION. Museum Löbbeckeanum, Dusseldorf, West Germany.

REMARKS. This egg was cracked but skilfully repaired.

HISTORY. Fredk. Thienemann of Dresden bought it from Perrot, a Paris dealer, in 1846, for 100 francs (about £4), for Fredk. Löbbecke of Rotterdam, who died on 29th February, 1856. It was inherited, along with his egg collection, by his nephew Th. Löbbecke of Duisburg who added it to his private collection which became the Museum Löbbeckeanum at Dusseldorf.

## EGG No. 62 (Pl. 62)

*Grieve's No. 1*

LOCATION. Zoologisch Museum, Amsterdam, Holland.

HISTORY. This egg and No. 63 were in the possession of the Royal Museum of Natural History, Leiden (now State Museum of Natural History), whose director in 1860, H. Schlegel, stated that they were procured from a French whaler early in the century. A Mr. G. A. Frank of London told Symington Grieve in 1885 that he believed both had been in the possession of his father or grandfather who sold them to Temminck. Some time between 1840 and 1845 Temminck gave this egg in exchange to Dr. Westerman of the Leiden Museum. In 1859 the director at that time H. Schlegel, stated that the egg was presented to the Royal Zoological Society of Amsterdam. This society maintained a Zoological Gardens and a Museum. The latter became incorporated into the Zoological Museum of Amsterdam.

## EGG No. 63 (Pl. 63)

*Grieve's No. 28*

LOCATION. State Museum of Natural History, Leiden, Holland.

HISTORY. Like No. 62 it is believed that this egg was brought to Europe in a whaler, probably from Newfoundland. It is recorded as having been in the possession

of a Mr. Frank of London who sold it to Temminck, in whose collection it must have been before 1820. From Temminck it went to the Museum in Leiden.

EGG No. 64 (Pl. 64)

*Grieve's No. 29*

LOCATION. Bocage Museum, Lisbon, Portugal.

HISTORY. There is a tradition that this egg was brought from a Museum in Italy by one of the kings of Portugal, and offered to the Museum in Lisbon about the middle of the nineteenth century. It came to light among the contents of the museum in 1884.

EGG No. 65 (Pl. 65)

*Grieve's No. 27*

LOCATION. Zoological Museum, Lausanne, Switzerland.

HISTORY. This egg and No. 7 are believed to have belonged to Levaillant, who died in 1824, and then probably to Professor D. A. Chavannes, who died about 1846. It is thought that the town of Lausanne acquired it with Professor Chavannes' collection. It was found in the Museum with the other egg by the curator, Dr. Depierre, about 1860. (For fuller notes see No. 7.)

EGG No. 66 (Pl. 66)

*Grieve's No. 53. Figured by des Murs, Rev. Mag. Zool., 1863, pl. 2*

LOCATION. Academy of Natural Sciences, Philadelphia, U.S.A.

HISTORY. This egg and No. 67 were once in the possession of Mon. des Murs who bought eggs for his collection from Paris dealers. He recorded (1863: 4) that he bought one from Launoy on the 3rd of June, 1830, for 5 francs and the other from Bevalet on 10th May, 1833, for 3 francs. His collection, including these two eggs, was purchased in 1849 by Dr. Thomas Wilson of the Academy of Natural Sciences, Philadelphia. When received, no mention was made of any specific egg but an entry in an old catalogue appears as "No. 1214 Alca Impennis Linn, Arctic Europe, des Murs 2". One of these eggs, No. 67, was later sent to the Smithsonian Institute. Mon. des Murs stated (1863: 5) that he possessed three eggs of the Great Auk, but the existence of a third has been questioned (Grieve, 1897: 264). Whether there ever was a third egg and if it ever reached the Academy is not possible to prove but it is interesting to mention that Mr. James A. G. Rehn, Curator of Entomology at the Academy, remembers, in his early days, seeing fragments of a Great Auk egg. When later Cassin talked to Professor Newton he only mentioned two eggs. Possibly if the third had been broken in transit he may not have felt it worth mentioning or cataloguing. This egg was not photographed by Bidwell and those shown have been kindly presented by the Academy of Natural Sciences.

## EGG No. 67 (Pl. 67)

*Grieve's No. 66.* Figured by Des Murs, *Rev. Mag. Zool.*, 1863, *pl. 1*

LOCATION. Smithsonian Institute, United States National Museum, Washington, D.C.

REMARKS. This egg had been damaged at one end and repaired.

HISTORY. One of the Des Murs eggs (*see* No. 66). Transferred from the Academy of Natural Sciences Philadelphia to the Smithsonian Institute. It was not photographed by E. Bidwell and the one shown here was presented by the Smithsonian Institute.

## EGG No. 68 (Pl. 68)

*Parkin's No. XXIV*

LOCATION. Not known.

HISTORY. Originally in a large collection of Natural history specimens belonging to Mr. W. Shepherd of Bristol and labelled as a penguin egg; it remained unrecognised as a Great Auk egg for a long time, not being recorded by Symington Grieve in 1885. In 1820 the Shepherd collection was bought by the grandfather of a Mr. S. E. Shirley of Stratford-on-Avon, whose property it eventually became. The egg came up for sale at Stevens' Rooms on 7th June, 1910, when it was bought by Mr. E. L. Ambrecht of Grosvenor Square, London, for £262 10s. It was offered for sale again at Stevens' Rooms on 21st November, 1912, when it was bought by Rowland Ward for £231. Unfortunately the records of this firm were destroyed by fire during the second world war and it is not known what became of the egg.

## EGG No. 69 (Pl. 69)

*Parkin's No. XII*

LOCATION. Private collection of Captain Vivian Hewitt of Anglesey, North Wales.

HISTORY. This egg and No. 70 are first known to have been owned by a Mr. Hulkes, a brewer, who had them from his grandfather. They were offered for sale by auction at the Little Hermitage, Higham, nr. Rochester, on 14th March, 1894, and bought by Mr. Wallace Hewett of Newington for thirty-six shillings. He is said to have been unaware of their value and carried them home in his handkerchief. After this treatment it is not surprising that both eggs suffered some damage. They were identified as Great Auk eggs by Dr. R. Bowdler Sharpe of the British Museum (Natural History) and were offered for sale at Stevens' Rooms on 24th April, 1894. This egg was bought by Herbert Massey of Didsbury, Cheshire, for £273. At his death it was bought by Captain Hewitt.



## EGG No. 70 (Pl. 70)

*Parkin's No. XIII*

LOCATION. Museum of Comparative Zoology, Harvard College, Cambridge, Mass., U.S.A.

HISTORY. Similar to No. 69 until sold at Stevens' Rooms on 24th April, 1894, when it was bought by Mr. Henry Munt of Kensington, London, for £183 15s. Shortly after it was acquired by Mr. Edward Bidwell who first collected information on the eggs known at that time. The egg was again put up for sale on 20th June, 1900, at Stevens' Rooms and went to James Gardner, a dealer, for £189, who presumably disposed of it to Sir J. H. Greville Smythe of Ashton Court, Somerset. It was not long in his possession for he died and once again it came up for sale at Stevens' Rooms on 17th April, 1912, where it fetched £157, being purchased by Rowland Ward for Colonel John Thayer of Lancaster, Mass., U.S.A. It was finally presented with his egg collection to the Harvard College Museum in 1931-32.

## EGG No. 71 (Pl. 71)

*Grieve's No. 36; Parkin's No. VIII*

LOCATION. Private collection of Sir John Stirling, Muir of Ord, Ross-shire.

HISTORY. The first-known record of this egg is its purchase by A. D. Bartlett in about 1838 from either a Mr. Dunn or a Mr. Hoy. In 1842 it was sold to a Mr. E. Maunde for £2. Bartlett re-purchased it about 1851. Then in 1852 it was sold to Dr. Nathaniel Troughton for £5. On 27th April, 1869, it was sold to the second Lord Garvagh, Garvagh Hall, Londonderry for £64. It then passed to Lady Garvagh in 1871 and to her daughter the Hon. Emmeline R. Canning in 1891. At her death on 19th February, 1898, the egg was found at her residence in London by Mr. J. E. Harting, Secretary of the Linnaean Society, and on 17th April of the same year it was purchased by Mr. Heatley Noble of Henley-on-Thames. On 19th May, 1904, it appeared at Stevens' Rooms when it was bought in at £200, and again on 16th March, 1905, when it was purchased by William Stirling of Muir of Ord for £210. Finally it passed to his son Sir John Stirling.

## EGG No. 72 (Pl. 72)

*Parkin's No. XIX*

LOCATION. Museum of Natural History, Reykjavik, Iceland.

REMARKS. This egg has large holes at both ends.

HISTORY. Nothing is known about this egg until it was in the possession of Sir Greville Smythe. It is thought that he obtained it through the dealer Gardner who had bought an unrecorded egg from a French collection at Stevens' Rooms on 20th June, 1900, for £330 15s. Sir Greville Smythe died in 1901 and his widow Lady Emily offered it for sale at Stevens' Rooms on 17th April, 1912 when it was purchased

by Rowland Ward for Colonel John Thayer of Lancaster, Mass., U.S.A. for £147. In 1931-32 it went with the Thayer collection to the Museum of Comparative Zoology, Harvard. Then in 1954 it was sold to its present owners.

EGG No. 73 (Pl. 73)

LOCATION. Private collection of M. le Marquis de Tristan, Clery St. Andre, France.

REMARKS. When discovered the egg was badly fractured at  $1\frac{1}{2}$  inches from the smaller end, but the Comte de Tristan had it skilfully repaired. It is described as having a pale yellow ground colour, the large end being well covered with dark markings. When Bidwell saw it there was a faded inscription "Pingouin".

HISTORY. In the records of his collection, which he made in 1935, the previous Marquis de Tristan, who died in 1944, stated that the egg was brought from Scotland by an ancestor before 1820. This egg remained unrecorded until it was first mentioned in the *Revue Francaise d'Ornithologie* for April 1913, by the Comte de Tristan who stated that he found the egg in a cupboard at his Château de l'Emerillon which had not been opened for many years. Apparently the egg belonged to the Comte's great-grandfather who travelled a great deal and brought home many interesting specimens. He died in January 1861 and his herbarium, specimens and manuscripts remained untouched until 1910.

EGG No. 74 (Pl. 74)

LOCATION. City Museum, Bristol.

HISTORY. Apparently the egg was purchased many years ago by Sir Greville Smythe of Bristol with a number of other sea-bird eggs. When he died in 1901 the egg came into the possession of his daughter the Hon. Esme Smythe who in 1945 donated it to the Bristol Museum in memory of Dr. H. Bolton, Director of the Museum for many years.

EGG No. 75 (Pl. 75)

LOCATION. American Museum of Natural History, New York.

HISTORY. Very little is known about this egg. It was in the possession of a Mr. P. B. Philip, owner of a most extensive collection of eggs, mainly North American, who presented this collection to the American Museum of Natural History in 1937.

Appendix "A"  
Comparison by Countries of Private and Museum Owned Eggs.

Year 1892 with additions to 1900			Year 1965	
COUNTRY	MUSEUMS	PRIVATE	MUSEUMS	PRIVATE
Great Britain	16	34	26	15
U.S.A.	2	—	13	—
France	4	7	4	2
Germany	2	1	5	—
Holland	2	—	2	—
Denmark	1	—	1	—
Switzerland	1	—	1	—
Portugal	1	—	1	—
Iceland	—	—	1	—
Finland	—	—	—	1
Total	29	42	54	18

It has not been possible to trace the present whereabouts of three eggs recorded in Bidwell's List of 1892 which are omitted from the above figures for 1965. These are:—

No. 38	Sir Bernard Eckstein (Owner up to 1947)
No. 59	Dresden (Lost in 1939-45 War)
No. 68	Rowland Ward (Records lost in 1939-45 War)

Grieve No. 42 was destroyed by fire in 1872.

## Appendix "B"

## Bidwell List of Owners of Great Auk Eggs 1892 and additions to 1900

1. British Museum, Natural History, Cromwell Road, London.
2. British Museum, Natural History, Cromwell Road, London.
3. Museum of Science and Art, Edinburgh.
4. Museum of Science and Art, Edinburgh.
5. University Museum, Cambridge.
6. University Museum, Cambridge.
7. University Museum, Cambridge.
8. University Museum, Cambridge.
9. University Museum, Cambridge.
10. University Museum, Oxford.
11. Royal College of Surgeons, London.
12. Royal College of Surgeons, London.
13. Royal College of Surgeons, London.
14. Derby Museum, Liverpool.
15. Natural History Museum, Newcastle-on-Tyne.
16. Philosophical Society's Museum, Scarborough.
17. Mr. Edward Bidwell, Twickenham.
18. Mr. Robert Champley, Scarborough.
19. Mr. Robert Champley, Scarborough.
20. Mr. Robert Champley, Scarborough.
21. Mr. Robert Champley, Scarborough.
22. Mr. Robert Champley, Scarborough.
23. Mr. Robert Champley, Scarborough.
24. Mr. Robert Champley, Scarborough.
25. Mr. Robert Champley, Scarborough.
26. Mr. Robert Champley, Scarborough.
27. Mr. Philip Crowley, Waddon, Surrey.
28. Mr. Herbert Massey, Didsbury, Lancs.
29. Lord Lilford, Lilford Hall, Northants.
30. Mr. John Malcolm, Poltallock, Argyllshire.
31. Sir Frederick Milner, Nunappleton, Yorks.
32. Prof. Newton, Cambridge.
33. Prof. Newton, Cambridge.
34. Prof. Newton, Cambridge.
35. Mr. John C. L. Rocke, Clungunford, Salop.
36. Hon. Walter Rothschild, Tring Park, Herts.
37. Mr. G. Fydell Rowley, Brighton.
38. Mr. G. Fydell Rowley, Brighton.
39. Mr. G. Fydell Rowley, Brighton.
40. Mr. G. Fydell Rowley, Brighton.
41. Mr. G. Fydell Rowley, Brighton.
42. Mr. G. Fydell Rowley, Brighton.
43. Sir Greville Smythe, Ashton Court, Somerset.
44. Mr. James H. Tuke, Hitchin, Herts.
45. Mr. Henry Walter, Papplewick, Notts.
46. Mr. Leopold Field, London.
47. Royal University Museum, Copenhagen.
48. Natural History Museum, Angers.
49. Museum of Natural History, Paris.
50. Museum of Natural History, Paris.
51. Museum of Natural History, Paris.
52. Baron Louis d'Hamonville, Manonville.
53. Baron Louis d'Hamonville, Manonville.
54. Baron Louis d'Hamonville, Manonville.
55. Baron Louis d'Hamonville, Manonville.
56. Mon. De Meezemaker, Bergues les Dunkerque.
57. Mon. De Meezemaker, Bergues les Dunkerque.
58. Mon. M. Hardy, Perigueux.
59. Royal Zoological Museum, Dresden.
60. Grand Ducal Museum, Oldenburg.
61. Herr. Th. Lobbecke, Dusseldorf.
62. Zoological Museum, Amsterdam.
63. Zoological Museum, Leyden.
64. National Museum, Lisbon.
65. Museum of Natural History, Lausanne.
66. Academy of Natural Sciences, Philadelphia.
67. Smithsonian Institute, Washington.
68. Mr. S. Evelyn Shirley, Ettington, Warwickshire.
69. Mr. Herbert Massey, Didsbury, Lancs.
70. Sir Greville Smythe, Ashton Court, Somerset.
71. Mr. Heatley Noble, Henley-on-Thames.

## Appendix "C"

## Tomkinson List of Owners of Great Auk Eggs 1965

1. British Museum (Natural History),  
Cromwell Road, London, S.W.7.
2. British Museum (Natural History),  
Cromwell Road, London, S.W.7.
3. Royal Scottish Museum, Edinburgh, 1.
4. Royal Scottish Museum, Edinburgh, 1.
5. University Museum of Zoology,  
Cambridge, England.
6. University Museum of Zoology,  
Cambridge, England.
7. University Museum of Zoology,  
Cambridge, England.
8. University Museum of Zoology,  
Cambridge, England.
9. University Museum of Zoology,  
Cambridge, England.
10. University Museum, Oxford.
11. Capt. Vivian Hewitt,  
Cemaes Bay, Anglesey, N. Wales.
12. Capt. Vivian Hewitt,  
Cemaes Bay, Anglesey, N. Wales.
13. Capt. Vivian Hewitt,  
Cemaes Bay, Anglesey, N. Wales.
14. City of Liverpool Museum,  
(Dept. of Zoology), Liverpool.
15. Hancock Museum, Natural History  
Soc. of Northumberland, Newcastle-  
upon-Tyne.
16. Scarborough Natural History Museum,  
The Crescent, Scarborough, York-  
shire.
17. Spalding Gentleman's Soc. Museum,  
Broad Street, Spalding, Lincolnshire.
18. Castle Museum, Norwich, Norfolk.
19. The Museum Alexander Koenig,  
Bonn, Western Germany.
20. British Museum (Natural History),  
Cromwell Road, London, S.W.7.
21. The Museum Alexander Koenig,  
Bonn, Western Germany.
22. Major Sir John Stirling, K.T.,  
Muir of Ord, Ross-shire, Scotland.
23. Museum of Comparative Zoology,  
Harvard College, Cambridge, U.S.A.
24. Museum of Comparative Zoology,  
Harvard College, Cambridge, U.S.A.
25. Museum of Comparative Zoology,  
Harvard College, Cambridge, U.S.A.
26. Museum of Comparative Zoology,  
Harvard College, Cambridge, U.S.A.
27. British Museum (Natural History),  
Cromwell Road, London, S.W.7.
28. Capt. Vivian Hewitt,  
Cemaes Bay, Anglesey, N. Wales.
29. British Museum (Natural History),  
Cromwell Road, London, S.W.7.
30. Capt. Vivian Hewitt,  
Cemaes Bay, Anglesey, N. Wales.
31. Museum of Comparative Zoology,  
Harvard College, Cambridge, U.S.A.
32. University Museum of Zoology,  
Cambridge, England.
33. University Museum of Zoology,  
Cambridge, England.
34. University Museum of Zoology,  
Cambridge, England.
35. The Museum Alexander Koenig,  
Bonn, Western Germany.
36. British Museum (Natural History),  
Cromwell Road, London, S.W.7.
37. Capt. Vivian Hewitt,  
Cemaes Bay, Anglesey, N. Wales.
38. Not located. Sold about 1947 by  
Sir Bernard Eckstein.
39. Capt. Vivian Hewitt,  
Cemaes Bay, Anglesey, N. Wales.
40. Capt. Vivian Hewitt,  
Cemaes Bay, Anglesey, N. Wales.
41. Capt. Vivian Hewitt,  
Cemaes Bay, Anglesey, N. Wales.
42. R. Kreuger, Stockholmsgatan 17,  
Helsingfors, Finland.
43. City Museum, Queen's Road, Bristol, 8.
44. Museum of Comparative Zoology,  
Harvard College, Cambridge, U.S.A.
45. The Castle Museum, Norwich, Norfolk.
46. Museum of Comparative Zoology,  
Harvard College, Cambridge, U.S.A.
47. University Museum of Zoology,  
Copenhagen, Denmark.
48. Museum d'Histoire Naturelle, Angers,  
France.
49. Museum d'Histoire Naturelle,  
55 Rue Buffon, Paris, France.
50. Museum d'Histoire Naturelle,  
55 Rue Buffon, Paris, France.



51. Museum d'Histoire Naturelle,  
55 Rue de Buffon, Paris, France.
52. Capt. Vivian Hewitt,  
Cemaes Bay, Anglesey, N. Wales.
53. Mr. J. W. Tomkinson,  
Trimpley, Nr. Bewdley,  
Worcestershire.
54. Museum of Comparative Zoology,  
Harvard College, Cambridge, U.S.A.
55. Museum of Comparative Zoology,  
Harvard College, Cambridge, U.S.A.
56. Capt. Vivian Hewitt,  
Cemaes Bay, Anglesey, N. Wales.
57. Mon. Heim de Balsac,  
34 Rue Hamelin, Paris, France.
58. Museum of Natural History,  
Marischel College, Aberdeen.
59. Not located—last known at:  
Museum of Natural History,  
Augustus Str. 2, Dresden, East  
Germany.
60. Museum of Natural History,  
Oldenburg, East Germany.
61. Museum Lobbeakeanum,  
Dusseldorf, Western Germany.
62. Zoological Museum, Amsterdam (c),  
Holland.
63. Rijksmuseum Raamsteeg 2, Leiden,  
Holland.
64. Zoological Museum, Lisbon, Portugal.
65. Museum of Zoology, Lausanne,  
Switzerland.
66. Academy of Natural Sciences,  
Philadelphia, U.S.A.
67. Smithsonian Institute National  
Museum, Washington, U.S.A.
68. Not located. Bought by Rowland Ward  
in 1912.
69. Capt. Vivian Hewitt,  
Cemaes Bay, Anglesey, N. Wales.
70. Museum of Comparative Zoology,  
Harvard College, Cambridge, U.S.A.
71. Major Sir John Stirling, K.T.,  
Muir of Ord, Ross-shire, Scotland.
72. Museum of Natural History,  
Reykjavik, Iceland.
73. Mon. le Marquis de Tristan,  
Cléry St. André, Loiret, France.
74. City Museum, Queen's Road, Bristol, 8.
75. The American Museum of Natural  
History, New York, U.S.A.

Appendix "D"  
Comparison of Egg Numbers

Tomkinson No.	Bidwell No.	Grieve No.	Parkin No.	Tomkinson No.	Bidwell No.	Grieve No.	Parkin No.
1	1	31/32	25	47	47	26	
2	2	31/32	26	48	48	2	
3	3	23		49	49	50	
4	4	24		50	50	51	
5	5	38	9	51	51	52	
6	6	39	10	52	52	43	3
7	7	40		53	53	3/4/5	20
8	8			54	54	3/4/5	15
9	9	41		55	55	3/4/5	18
10	10	48		56	56	6/7	
11	11	33		57	57	6/7	
12	12	34		58	58	20	23
13	13	35		59	59	21	
14	14	30		60	60	47	
15	15	44		61	61	22	
16	16	56		62	62	1	
17	17	68	4	63	63	28	
18	18	57	22	64	64	29	
19	19	58		65	65	27	
20	20	60		66	66	53	
21	21	59		67	67	66	
22	22	61	21	68	68		24
23	23	62		69	69		12
24	24	63		70	70		13
25	25	64		71	71	36	8
26	26	65		72			19
27	27	19		73			
28	28	67	6	74			
29	29	37	7	75			
30	30	54					
31	31	45	14				
32	32	17					
33	33	15					
34	34	16					
35	35	18					
36	36	8					
37	37	9	5				
38	38	10					
39	39	11					
40	40	12					
41	41	13	1				
42	42	14	2				
43	43	55	11				
44	44	25	16				
45	45	49					
46	46	46	17				

## REFERENCES

- DES MURS, M. O. 1863. Notice sur l'œuf de *Alca impennis* *Rev. de Zool. Paris*, **15** : 3.
- HAMONVILLE, Baron L. 1888. Note sur les quatre oeufs d'*Alca impennis* appartenant a notre collection zoologique. *Mem. Soc. Zool. de France*, **1** : 224.
- GRIEVE, Symington. 1885. *The Great Auk or Garefowl*, London.
- 1897. Supplementary note on the Great Auk or Garefowl (*Alca impennis* Linn.) *Trans. Edin. Field Nat. and Micros. Soc.* **3** : 237.
- HEWITSON, W. C. 1856. *Eggs of British Birds*. 3rd ed. Vol. II.
- PARKIN T. (collected by). *The Great Auk; Miscellaneous papers*. British Museum (Natural History): Bird Section Library.
- WOLLEY, J. 1905. *Ootheca Wolleyana*, Vol. 2.

Plates 66, 67, 72-75 are natural size and the remainder are approximately  $\frac{9}{10}$  of natural size.

All plates are from untouched photographs.

























































































































































































